

PROVIDING FOR MUNICIPAL USE OF STORAGE WATER  
IN BENBROOK DAM, TEX.

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JUNE 13, 1956.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

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Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, from the Committee on Public Works,  
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 10964]

The Committee on Public Works, to whom was referred the bill  
(H. R. 10964) to provide for municipal use of storage water in Ben-  
brook Dam, Tex., having considered the same, report favorably  
thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of H. R. 10964 is to permit the beneficial use of waters  
now impounded by Benbrook Dam and Reservoir, Tex. The reser-  
voir project was authorized by the River and Harbor Act approved  
March 2, 1945. It is located in Tarrant County, Tex. on Clear Fork  
of Trinity River, 15 river miles upstream from its confluence with the  
West Fork of the Trinity River, about 10 miles southwest of Fort  
Worth, Tex.

The completed reservoir provides a total storage capacity of 258,600  
acre-feet, of which 170,350 acre-feet are for flood control, 72,500 acre-  
feet of storage for possible future navigation on the Trinity River to  
Fort Worth, and a sedimentation reserve of 15,750 acre-feet. The  
authorization for Benbrook Dam and Reservoir provides for use of the  
navigation storage for streamflow regulation or recreation until such  
time as the downstream navigation project is authorized and con-  
structed.

Under the provisions of H. R. 10964 the Secretary of the Army is  
authorized to contract with the city of Fort Worth for the use of those  
waters stored for navigation purposes until such time as the supply  
storage is needed for navigation.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

It is the understanding of the committee that other Texas municipalities now contracting with the city of Fort Worth for water supply will similarly benefit from the availability of these waters to the city of Fort Worth. Riparian rights of citizens in the area are not adversely affected. The committee received a report on the bill from the Secretary of the Army indicating that his Department would not object to an interim use of the navigation storage space for water-supply purposes. Enactment of the legislation will not involve the expenditure of any Federal funds.

Due to the emergency nature of the legislation and the critical need of the area for additional municipal water supply, the committee recommends expeditious action by the Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Army, indicating no objection to the enactment of the legislation, follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,  
*Washington 25, D. C., May 25, 1956.*

Hon. CHARLES A. BUCKLEY,  
*Chairman, Committee on Public Works,  
House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of the Army with respect to H. R. 10964, 84th Congress, a bill to provide for municipal use of storage water in Benbrook Dam, Tex.

The Department of the Army has considered the above-mentioned bill. The purpose of the bill is to modify the project for improvement of the Trinity River and tributaries, Texas, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to contract with the city of Fort Worth, pursuant to section 6 of the Flood Control Act of December 22, 1944, as reenacted by the act of May 23, 1952 (33 U. S. C. 708), for the use of water-supply storage in the Benbrook Reservoir for municipal water supply until such time as the storage space is needed for navigation purposes.

The existing Benbrook Dam and Reservoir project was authorized by the River and Harbor Act approved March 2, 1945 (59 Stat. 10), in accordance with House Document 403, 77th Congress. The completed reservoir provides a total storage capacity of 258,600 acre-feet, of which 170,350 acre-feet are for flood control, 72,500 acre-feet of storage for possible future navigation on the Trinity River to Fort Worth, and a sedimentation reserve of 15,750 acre-feet. The authorization for Benbrook Dam and Reservoir provides for use of the navigation storage for streamflow regulation or recreation until such time as the downstream navigation project is authorized and constructed.

The Department is not opposed to an interim use of the navigation storage space for water supply purposes as proposed in H. R. 10964. Therefore, the Department of the Army has no objection to enactment of the bill.

In the event of enactment of this bill, the Department would require of the city of Fort Worth reasonable compensation for the use of this storage space. No estimate is available at this time as to the amount of the payments which would be necessary.

Inasmuch as the Department has been requested to expedite the report, it is submitted without a determination by the Bureau of the Budget as to whether or not it conforms to the program of the President. As soon as such advice is received it will be forwarded to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WILBER M. BRUCKER,  
*Secretary of the Army.*

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